



**Brookstone Schools**  
*Sowing Seeds of Wisdom*

Annual Report 2011-2012



Brianna Johnson, 3rd grader, Nygel Verdier, 4th grader, Donovan Sanders, 2nd grader.

*Go forth into the world; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good.*

- From the Book of Common Prayer

# By Faith. A Community in Action.



Dr. Donald Larson, Headmaster



Brookstone Schools, located off West Boulevard in Amay James Pre-K Center, celebrates 12 years of educating inner-city children.

## History

In 1996 a diverse group of concerned citizens came together with a vision to found a non-profit, Christ-centered school in Charlotte's urban core. Their task was to provide quality education and moral teaching to low-income urban children; their hope was in God's protection and provision to make it happen. Brookstone opened its doors in 2001 and has grown steadily to become the flourishing ministry it is today.

"A vision without a task  
is but a dream;  
A task without a vision is  
drudgery;  
A vision with a task is the  
hope of the world"

*- Inscription on a church in  
Sussex, England, 1730.*

## Vision

After 11 years of existence, our results show a solid track record of our students' academic achievement and growth in character. Our long term vision is to offer two classes per grade (K-8), serving 300 students and their families. Future expansion will include the addition of residential housing to provide a safe and supportive full-time environment for those students who are most in need.



*John Stamas, board director with Donovan Sanders, 2nd grader and Nygel Verdier, 4th grader.*

*... let us run with patience the race marked out for us.*

- Hebrews 12:1

# By Hope. A Shared Vision.



"I have been a part of Brookstone School since its inception. My husband Roy and I helped with the initial funding and have remained partners since the school opened in 2001. We are continually amazed by the excellence, spiritual depth and dedication of the teachers, administrators, and board members. They are not only servants to these precious children, but to the children's families and to all the volunteers and supporters that visit the school. The teachers and staff at Brookstone are true missionaries. I am always renewed, encouraged, and challenged when I visit and see them leading and teaching the children. These servants are truly answering God's call...a compelling witness to those like me."

Susan Goode,  
partner & board director

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*Business, Retired*  
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*Insurance*  
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*Community Advocate*  
Susan Goode  
*Community Advocate*

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*Development, YMCA*  
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Courtenay Miller  
*Financial Planning*  
Rebecca Pitts  
*Consultant, Protocol*  
John Stamas  
*Financial Planning*  
Harry Schrader  
*Architect*

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Meg Dewey  
Brad Grow  
John Mauldin  
Sue Makepeace  
Greta Orcutt  
Lynn Purdum

Keith Robelen  
Bob Shive  
Cathy Thompson  
Tom Waters  
Julie White  
Anita Williams  
Debby Woodhouse

Donald Larson, PhD  
*Head of School*  
Suzanne Wilson, MEd  
*Director of Development*



Brookstone teacher Julie Smith with Chessma Johnson, kindergartener.

*Mission: To glorify God by providing a program of academic excellence that will equip low-income urban students academically, socially, and spiritually for future lives of leadership and service.*

# By Love. You Make The Difference.



I taught elementary school for 18 years in CMS. This is the first time I've had an opportunity to truly minister to children in a Christian environment. How thankful I am for these children who bless me each time I come.

- Anne Martin,  
partner & volunteer

environment where these kids can truly thrive.

- Davis Ridley,  
Charlotte Fellows Intern



Brookstone School is provides a much needed opportunity for at-risk children in our community. A Christ-centered environment where children are loved, challenged, and inspired by teachers dedicated to spiritual and academic excellence.

- Mark Hawkins,  
partner & volunteer



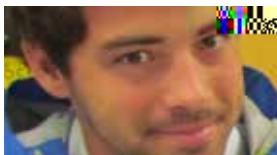
Here I feel like I'm making a difference. It means a lot to me to be able to reach out to a student in a Christian environment.

- Stephen Neil, lunch buddy



As a parent it has been a blessing to move to Charlotte and find an affordable Christian school. I love volunteering and giving back by running the kitchen and providing good nutrition for all.

- Pam Linen,  
Brookstone parent



The amount of teaching here is impressive. Everything is running well. This is such a stable



Brookstone parent Marilyn Oteka & daughter, Brianna, 3rd grade.

Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with action and in truth.  
- 1 John 3:18

# By Grace. What has been accomplished.



*"This school blessed me in so many ways. Since I've been at middle school, I can see that the training I got at Brookstone really paid off ... just learning how to persevere and face obstacles in life. For the kids now at Brookstone, I would say to them to not be easily distracted and stay focused so you can make a difference in this world."*

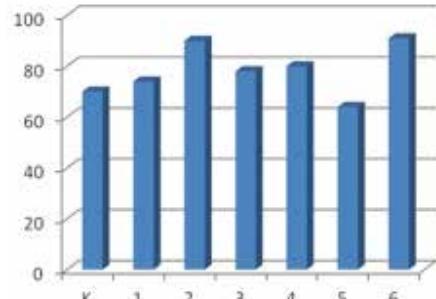
## Brookstone graduate

Percy Johnson is an eighth grader and AB Honor Roll student at Back Creek Christian Academy. His favorite subjects are reading and math.

## Academic Highlights

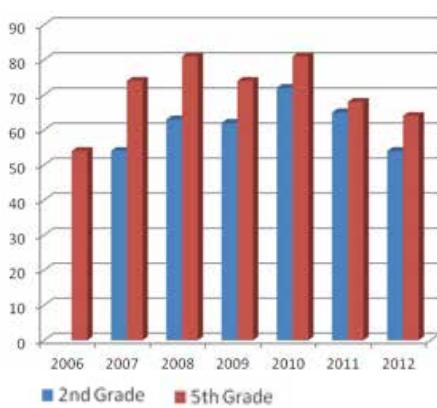
The tables below show students' scores on the TerraNova/Stanford 10 achievement tests.

**B r o o k s t o n e M a t h S c o r e**



Students showed outstanding above-grade level math outcomes. Our sixth grade class average was at the 91st percentile! According to norm referenced assessment, 50th percentile is the national average for performance. This means Brookstone students scored better than 91% of six graders who took this test nationwide.

**B r o o k s t o n e B a s i c B a c k e r Sc o r e T e r r a N o v a**



Significant academic growth is shown by each graduating class from second to fifth grade. These above-grade level outcomes are being sustained from one year to the next.

*Our scores above are converted from the TerraNova to the Stanford 10*



Development Director, Suzanne Wilson and Donovan Sanders, 2nd grader.

*Till the race is finished and the work is done,  
We'll walk by faith and not by sight.*

- By Faith - a hymn by Townsend & Getty

## Financial Highlights

*Statement of Activity July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012*



For me, Brookstone has been a way of escape out of the wilderness. We wanted our daughter, Janel, to have a Christian education and we did not have the money. We found Brookstone, a ministry that helps families bring up their children in the way of the Lord. So from that, volunteering for me is just a way to saying, 'thank you' to God for taking care of us. If we had the money right now to give back, we would give it to support this ministry. But, for now, what I have to give is time.

Nah Darkwa,  
Brookstone parent  
& volunteer

## Revenue

Total Contributions	\$943,600
Total Student Fees	74,700
Other Income	20,900
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,039,200</b>

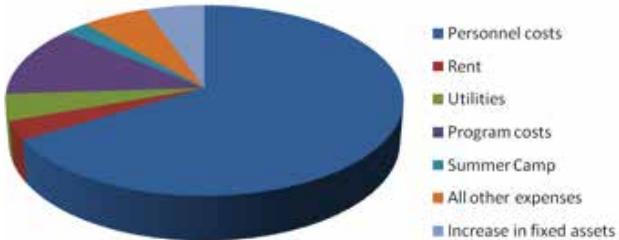
## Expenses

Personnel costs	\$570,000
Rent	27,300
Program costs	104,200
Utilities	38,700
Summer Camp	20,000
All other expenses	52,400
Increase in fixed assets	46,500
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$859,100</b>

**Total Expenses** \$859,100

**Net Income** \$180,100

## Brookstone School Expenses



Expanded Vision

While still in the midst of a recession, we are thankful that the Lord has blessed us with a healthy cash reserve to keep pushing forward. Brookstone's future looks bright! We are not just focused on keeping the doors open, the lights on, and programs running: we are poised to grow and impact more lives. We need your continued support so we can add grades (7th & 8th) within the next two years and, over time, add an additional classroom at each grade level. Going forward, your investment will be vital in helping us achieve our expanded vision of being a Christ-centered K-8 educational institution in West Charlotte.





*Josiah Collins, 1st grader.*

*"But the people who know their God will display strength and take action."*

- Daniel 11:32

# Faith. Hope. Love. So many to thank.



*"Brookstone has changed my life by giving me knowledge that helps me to understand how to accomplish goals and succeed. I have learned that nothing is impossible with God. Things are going to get difficult in life, but you just have to stay focused and keep pushing forward. We all have to understand that God didn't give up on us, so let's keep on persevering."*

6th grader Shamani Stafford graduated in June and will attend Cramerton Christian Academy. She hopes to be a veterinarian one day.

## BUSINESSES

Ampac Investments, LLC  
BF Products Inc.  
Boy Scouts Of America Troop 95  
Charlotte Fellows Program  
Childress Klein Properties  
Coca-Cola Bottling Co. Consolidated  
D. Finch Surgical & Medical Defender Capital Advisors  
Elliott Davis, LLC  
Finch & Associates, Ltd.  
Gaston Christian School  
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McCorbin's Daycare  
P. R. Hughes, LLC  
Piedmont Natural Gas  
Providence Packaging  
Ronald Blue & Co., LLC  
SCBT, N.A.  
Sipe, LLC  
Southern Precision Spring  
Technesis  
The Christmas Village Toy Store  
Trinity Consulting, Inc.  
Weddington Christian Academy

## FOUNDATIONS

Bank of America Foundation  
Bank of American United Way Campaign  
The Herschel H. and Cornelius

N. Everett Foundation  
The Family Foundation  
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The Hayes Family Foundation  
Stephen and Debra Hix Family Foundation

C. Ray & Cynthia M. Kennedy Foundation

The Leon Levine Foundation,  
Sandra and Leon Levine Lincoln Financial Foundation  
Mebane Charitable Foundation  
The National Christian Foundation

Wells Fargo Community Support

## CHURCHES

All Saints Anglican Church  
All Saints' Presbyterian Church  
Carmel Presbyterian Church  
Davidson United Methodist Church  
Davidson United Methodist Women  
Friendship Missionary Baptist Church  
Holy Trinity Reformed Church  
Hope Community Church  
Luther Snyder/Ruth Fisher Bible Class at Myers Park UMC  
Matthews Orthodox Presbyterian Church  
Myers Park Presbyterian Church  
Myers Park Presbyterian Church Presbyterians  
Myers Park United Methodist Church  
Providence United Methodist Church  
SouthLake Presbyterian Church  
Sovereign Grace Presbyterian Church  
St. Giles Presbyterian Church  
Victory Christian Center  
Westminster Presbyterian Church

# Thank you for your support...

## INDIVIDUALS

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# and the children thank you.

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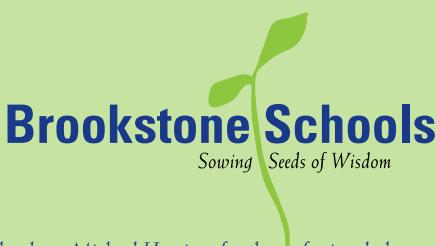
## Get Involved. Let Your Life Speak.

**Come Visit** Visit our website for a schedule of upcoming "Lunch and Learn" events. Tour the classrooms and talk with the children. It is our joy to share our mission with you.

**Volunteer** There are many ways that you can get actively involved as a tutor, mentor, lunch buddy and more. Call our office or download a volunteer application from our website.

**Tell A Friend** Share Brookstone with your church, business, or civic organization—there are always creative ways to serve! Give us a call or email us at [getintouch@brookstoneschools.org](mailto:getintouch@brookstoneschools.org) to learn more.

**Donate** Call or visit our website today to find out how you can give by mail or online to support our mission.



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